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PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION AND ITS SUBSIDIARY MACHINERY FOR 1992

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Abbreviations commonly used in ACC documents

ACABQ	Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions
ACC	Administrative Committee on Coordination
ACCIS	Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Information Systems
CCAQ (FB)	Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions)
CCAQ (PER)	Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions)
CCSQ (OPS)	Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities)
CCSQ (PROG)	Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters)
CPC	Committee for Programme and Coordination
DOEM	Designated Officials on Environmental Matters
EC	European Community
ECA	Economic Commission for Africa
ECE	Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ESCAP	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GATT	General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade
Habitat	United Nations Centre for Human Settlements
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organization
ICSC	International Civil Service Commission
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development

ILO	International Labour Organisation
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
INC/FCCC	Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee for a Framework Convention on Climate Change
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
JIU	Joint Inspection Unit
JUNIC	Joint United Nations Information Committee
NPPP	National Professional Project Personnel
OAU	Organization of African Unity
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNDCP	United Nations International Drug Control Programme
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNHCR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
UPU	Universal Postal Union
WFC	World Food Council
WFP	World Food Programme
WHO	World Health Organization
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization

PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION AND ITS SUBSIDIARY MACHINERY FOR 1992

I. ISSUES FOR SUBSTANTIVE CONSIDERATION IN 1992

1. In response to current intergovernmental priorities, the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC), its Organizational Committee and its Consultative Committees will consider in 1992 the issues set out below.

A. International cooperation for economic and social development

1. Development and international economic cooperation

2. ACC in 1992 will continue to monitor the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, adopted by the General Assembly in resolution 45/199. The ACC Task Force on Long-term Development Objectives, which assists ACC in its consideration of issues related to development and international economic cooperation, is one of the mechanisms for review and appraisal of the Strategy and will evaluate the implementation of the Strategy by the organizations of the United Nations system at its meeting to be held in Geneva from 3-6 March 1992. The subject was discussed at the twenty-sixth series of the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) and the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) held in October 1991. In line with the conclusions of the Joint Meetings, ACC will keep under review the implementation of the strategy by the organizations of the United Nations system, which may need to review and revise, if necessary, their own targets and indicators to facilitate more comprehensive and accurate reporting for the appraisal of the Strategy.

3. ACC will also contribute to the preparations for and follow-up to intergovernmental meetings and deliberations, including the eighteenth special session of the General Assembly on development and international economic cooperation, particularly the revitalization of the growth and development of the developing countries, the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and UNCTAD VIII. In addition, ACC will be apprised, at its second regular session, of the results of other intergovernmental meetings, including those of the Interim Committee of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the Joint World Bank/IMF Development Committee. ACC will continue to be seized with the issue of debt and development.

4. In 1992 ACC will focus, in particular, on the following uses:

(a) New agenda for Africa

5. The United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development 1986-1990 was adopted by the General Assembly at its thirteenth special session, held in 1986 (resolution S-13/2). A mid-term review of the

implementation of the Programme of Action was carried out by the Assembly in 1988 and the final review in 1991. General Assembly resolution 46/151 contains, in an annex, the final review and appraisal of the implementation of the Programme of Action, as well as the New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s. That resolution requested organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to play a major role in the implementation of the commitments contained in the New Agenda for Africa. The United Nations should also contribute to ensuring the efficient follow-up and monitoring of the implementation of the New Agenda. ACC will continue to be apprised of the critical economic situation in Africa and will develop inter-agency responses, as appropriate.

6. A system-wide plan of action for African economic recovery and development is to be prepared and submitted to CPC in 1992. An outline, containing the proposed framework of the plan, was reviewed by CPC in 1991. In 1992, the organizations of the United Nations system will be involved in the preparation of the system-wide plan, which the Organizational Committee will review at its meeting in March of 1992.

(b) Poverty, disease and underdevelopment

7. At its first regular session of 1992, ACC will consider as a topic for policy discussion the issue of poverty, disease and underdevelopment.

8. The eradication of poverty is a priority concern of the United Nations system. Aspects of poverty eradication are discussed in a variety of United Nations forums. The importance of human resources development as a strategy to combat poverty is increasingly recognized.

9. Health, which is a matter of multisectoral concern par excellence, is a crucial component in human resources development. All sectors impinge on health and vice-versa. Analysis shows that health can be a critical factor in breaking the vicious circle of poverty, disease and under-development. The discussion at ACC will have four major foci:

(i) Review of the relationship between economic development and health. The economic and health benefits of strategic investment and the crucial link between poverty, health and environment will be illustrated;

(ii) The economic repercussions of HIV/AIDS and its effect on adults as well as children, particularly infants, is one of the greater challenges of the 1990s. Investment in prevention at the earliest possible stage has extremely high pay-offs compared with the economic costs associated with higher levels of HIV infection. The direct impact of AIDS on the labour force in the rural areas of some countries (United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda), information which has been severely restricted or suppressed, will be addressed. Another issue to receive attention is the link between intravenous drug use and HIV/AIDS;

(iii) Review of the issue of financing of the health sector. Many Governments are beginning to take on the role and responsibility, not only as providers of services but also as more efficient managers through appropriate relations with the medical market. Health policy reforms are in process in Eastern Europe, Africa and Asia, with countries seeking an appropriate mix of private and public investment in health. This new situation should be taken into account in structural adjustment and other development programmes;

(iv) Review of strategies adopted by the agencies of the United Nations system to assist in poverty eradication and human development with a view to identifying areas for inter-agency collaboration in support of countries' attempts to better manage the poverty-disease-underdevelopment nexus.

10. The World Health Organization (WHO), in consultation with the organizations of the system, will prepare a background paper for this discussion.

(c) Implications for the United Nations system of the transition in Eastern and Central Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States

11. Under this item ACC will, on the basis of the experience of the organizations, assess the progress in and propects for implementing socio-political and economic reforms in these countries. Questions which could be addressed would include the content and speed of the reform programmes, specific support mechanisms that exist or need to be put in place to ensure successful implementation of reform policies, adequacy of finance, and the role United Nations agencies could play in these and other related areas. The political dimension of the transition to democracy is an area where technical assistance from multilateral channels may be particularly important, including electoral assistance, institution-building, local governance and human rights training.

12. It is hoped that the discussion will provide a better understanding of the complex nature of the problem and the range of supportive approaches, built around an appropriate macroeconomic framework, needed in the reforming process in that area. The social impact of the economic transitions under way in these countries, particularly on vulnerable groups, needs to be fully understood and appropriate policy responses developed.

13. ACC will also address the repercussions of the developments in Central and Eastern Europe on their activities in the developing countries.

14. All the Central and Eastern European countries have stand-by arrangements with the IMF, which is also in the process of completing action on the membership applications of the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Simultaneously, the Fund and the World Bank have fielded various policy and technical assistance missions to these countries. ACC

would be informed of the experience with Fund/Bank programmes and operations in these countries as well as that of other organizations with relevant experiences.

15. ACC would also under this item review the experience of organizations related to the admission into membership of the newly independent States of the former Soviet Union and of other issues arising from the transitions in Eastern and Central Europe. Various organizations have experienced difficulties in the collection of assessed contributions. The possible development of system-wide responses to this and similar types of problems will be considered by ACC.

16. Both donors and recipients are strongly interested in a coordinated approach to the field presence of the ACC organizations. Indeed, many among them see the transition process in the CIS countries as a unique opportunity for the United Nations system to have joint representation at field level by way of a single office. ACC should consider this matter under this item.

17. The United Nations will provide a background paper for this discussion.

(d) Economic and other consequences of the conflict in the Gulf

18. The Organizational Committee, at its organizational session to be held on 10-13 February 1992, will review the activities of the organizations of the system relating to the economic and other consequences of the conflict in the Gulf. The Organizational Committee will receive a progress report on this issue at its second regular session.

(e) Developments under the Uruguay Round and their implications

19. ACC will be apprised of the outcome of the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations, and will discuss the implications for the work of the United Nations system.

(f) Financing of growth and development

20. The Secretary-General of the United Nations raised the possibility of convening an international conference on the financing of development before the Economic and Social Council at its second regular session of 1991. A note on the proposed conference was submitted to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session. In resolution 46/205, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in close consultation with the multilateral financial institutions, to submit a report on an international conference on the financing of development to the forty-seventh session of the General Assembly. Following the decisions of the Economic and Social Council and the Assembly in this regard, ACC will consider, at its second regular session of 1992, the role of the organizations of the United Nations system in the preparation of the conference.

(g) Industrial development

21. By resolution 45/196, the General Assembly recommended that ACC examine ways and means to foster United Nations system activities with regard to industrial development cooperation and diversification and modernization of productive activities in developing countries. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), in cooperation with the appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, was requested to make recommendations to the Assembly through the Economic and Social Council on strengthening industrial development cooperation. The reports mandated in paragraphs 9 and 10 of resolution 45/196 will be prepared and submitted to the Assembly at its forty-seventh session as requested in Assembly resolution 46/146. UNIDO will prepare a progress report on this issue to be presented to the Organizational Committee at its meeting in March of 1992.

(h) Developing human resources for development

22. General Assembly resolution 46/143 called upon the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to coordinate their activities in support of national and regional programmes, priorities and activities in the area of human resources development through, inter alia, dialogue on policy, resource allocation and strengthening the database for planning and monitoring, as well as through appropriate, measurable, qualitative and quantitative goals for human resources development. The Secretary-General was requested to submit to the General Assembly at its forty-eighth session a report on human resources development, including specific proposals for action to enhance inter-agency coordination of the United Nations system on issues relating to human resources development and to monitor the activities of the United Nations system in support of human resources development objectives. In the course of 1992 ACC will consider the contribution of the organizations of the system to the report.

(i) Report on the World Social Situation

23. Economic and Social Council resolution 1991/4 and General Assembly resolution 46/95 recommended that ACC review the draft of the 1993 Report on the World Social Situation to ensure that an integrated interdisciplinary focus is given and to provide a source of information for the report. The resolutions also invite appropriate organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General in the preparation of the 1993 report by making available all relevant information pertaining to their respective areas of competence. ACC will make arrangements for review of the draft report in 1992.

2. Environment and development

(a) Conference on Environment and Development

24. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and other organs, organizations and programmes of the United Nations system have been requested by the General Assembly to contribute fully to the preparations for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in 1992. The Secretary-General was requested to ensure the coordination of contributions from the United Nations system, through ACC. At its first regular session for 1992, ACC will be apprised of the outcome of the final session of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference (9 March to 3 April 1992) and will continue to ensure that the organizations of the system contribute to the preparations for the Conference in a coherent and effective manner.

25. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 45/211, the organizations of the system will continue to give full support to the preparatory process for the Conference and assist the Secretary-General of the Conference in the implementation of the work programme as well as extend full cooperation to developing countries in order to ensure that appropriate preparations for the sessions of the Preparatory Committee are made, in particular in all aspects relating to linkages between environment and development, including the identification of concrete measures and action to ensure that these issues are treated in a balanced and integrated way.

26. At its second regular session of 1992, ACC will have a preliminary discussion of the outcome of the Conference, in particular regarding institutional arrangements relating to coordination, and will consider how the organizations of the system could contribute most effectively to implementation of the decisions reached at the Conference.

(b) Annual report of ACC to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

27. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 2997 (XXVII), 32/197 and 33/86, ACC is required to submit an annual report to the Governing Council of UNEP. ACC will have before it, at its second regular session of 1992, the draft of the report to be considered by the Governing Council in 1993, prepared by the Executive Director of UNEP in cooperation with designated officials on environmental matters.

(c) Climate change

28. The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on a Framework Convention on Climate Change will hold its fifth session in New York from 18 to 28 February 1992, with the possibility of the Committee holding a short resumed session in New York in April 1992. ACC, through its Organizational Committee, will be apprised of the outcome of the negotiations at its first regular session of 1992.

3. Humanitarian and emergency assistance

29. In accordance with General Assembly resolutions 45/140 and 45/153, ACC in 1991 considered the role of the United Nations system in early warning to avert massive flows of refugees. Resolution 45/153 invited the bodies of the United Nations system to consider the most expedient ways and means of following up on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit on coordination of early warning activities in this area (the JIU report is contained in document JIU/REP/1990/2). In 1991 ACC decided to designate the United Nations (Office for Research and Collection of Information) as the focal point for early warning and to establish an ad hoc working group to develop an effective early warning system related to possible new flows of refugees and displaced persons. ACC will consider the report of the working group at its second regular session of 1992 (ACC decision 1991/9).

30. In resolution 45/140, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to initiate, with a view to recommending ways of maximizing cooperation and coordination among the various organizations of the United Nations system, a system-wide review to assess the experiences and capacity of those organizations in coordinating assistance to all refugees, displaced persons and returnees, and to the full spectrum of their needs, in supporting the efforts of affected countries, and to report on results to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session. Having considered the report of the Secretary-General (A/46/568), the Assembly, in resolution 46/182 decided to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations. The resolution calls for the designation by the Secretary-General of a high-level emergency relief coordinator to work closely with him in cooperation with the relevant organizations and entities of the system dealing with humanitarian assistance. An Inter-Agency Standing Committee would be established under the chairmanship of the high-level official with the participation of all operational organizations. ACC will review these new arrangements at its second regular session of 1992.

4. International Conference on Nutrition

31. At its second regular session of 1992, the Organizational Committee will have before it a progress report on the International Conference on Nutrition to be held in Rome from 5 to 11 December 1992. The report will be prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO).

5. International drug abuse control

32. The United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control constitutes a framework for the activities of the organizations of the system relating to drug abuse control. The organizations will be involved in reviewing implementation of the Action Plan through the Ad hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Coordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control. The

Organizational Committee will consider international drug abuse control at its second regular session of 1992 on the basis of a progress report to be prepared by the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP).

6. International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant

33. In 1992 ACC will continue to monitor the activities of the organizations of the United Nations system to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. A programme for coordinating these activities has been formulated as requested in General Assembly resolutions 45/190 and 46/150. The United Nations Coordinator for international cooperation to the regions affected by the accident at Chernobyl will provide a progress report to the Organizational Committee at its second regular session of 1992, including information on resources available and activities of the organizations of the United Nations system as well as of the Task Force established by ACC in 1991.

7. South Africa

34. Since the adoption by consensus of General Assembly resolution S-16/1 of 14 December 1989, which contains in an annex the Declaration on Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences in Southern Africa, a number of positive developments have taken place in South Africa. This conclusion was reached in the findings of the Secretary-General in two reports to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Declaration (September 1990 and September 1991), and has since been strengthened by the establishment of the Convention for a Democratic South Africa.

35. In its resolution 46/79 A, the General Assembly welcomed the agreement reached by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees with the South African authorities concerning the voluntary repatriation of South African refugees and exiles, and appealed to the international community to provide, and urged the Secretary-General to facilitate, through the relevant United Nations agencies and offices in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, all necessary humanitarian assistance to ensure the successful implementation of the repatriation programme.

36. The Secretary-General was also urged to facilitate, through the relevant United Nations agencies and offices, and in a concerted manner, humanitarian and educational assistance inside South Africa for the reintegration of political exiles and released political prisoners, and to the disadvantaged sectors of South African society.

37. The resolution further urged the Secretary-General, at the appropriate time, in the light of positive developments, such as agreement on transitional arrangements, to expand, in a concerted manner, through the relevant United

Nations offices and in collaboration with the specialized agencies, the scope of assistance provided inside South Africa, aimed at addressing socio-economic issues, particularly in the areas of education, health, housing and social welfare, which may entail the physical presence of the United Nations system in that country.

38. The Secretary-General was finally requested to continue to ensure the coordination of activities of the United Nations system in the fulfilment of the Declaration on Apartheid and of the resolution and report thereon to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session, and further requested him to continue monitoring the implementation of the Declaration as well as pursuing appropriate initiatives to facilitate all efforts leading to the peaceful eradication of apartheid.

39. The Secretary-General presented to the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session a report entitled "Coordinated approach by the United Nations system on questions relating to South Africa" (A/46/648). ACC, having previously, in 1991, considered a coordinated approach by the United Nations system to questions relating to South Africa in 1991, adopted guidelines in that regard (ACC decision 1991/7). The Organizational Committee, on behalf of ACC, will continue to discuss mechanisms to ensure that the activities of the organizations are fully consistent with the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and will review a progress report at its second regular session of 1992.

40. In response to the call for coordination, both by the General Assembly and ACC, a meeting was organized on 1 and 2 October 1991 by the United Nations Centre against Apartheid. All major United Nations organizations, agencies and offices exchanged information on actual or planned activities concerning South Africa and established a forum for continued collaboration on this matter. Also discussed were modalities for the preparation of a preliminary assessment of the possible implications of political evolution in South Africa and of the economic and social needs of low income populations in South Africa and on the economies of neighbouring countries (requested by ACC in decision 1991/7; to be finalized in the course of 1992). A final item discussed was a meeting to be held in the spring of 1992, which will examine how the United Nations system as a whole can help in the efforts to address the glaring socio-economic inequalities in South Africa during the interim period and, most important, once South Africa has become a united and non-racial democracy.

8. Assistance to Namibia

41. In 1990 ACC reviewed the assistance rendered by the organizations of the United Nations system to the development of Namibia. It assigned to its Organizational Committee the responsibility for keeping under review the provision of assistance to Namibia. The General Assembly in resolution 45/198, encouraged the organizations of the United Nations system to provide all possible support to the fledgling economic and social structures of the new nation of Namibia and to its development aspirations, and, in resolution

46/204, requested organizations of the United Nations system and other agencies to grant Namibia for a number of years assistance of a scope comparable to that given to a least developed country. ACC considered a progress report on assistance to Namibia at its second regular session of 1991 and will keep this matter under review in 1992.

9. International conferences, years, decades and anniversaries

42. International strategies, years and decades sponsored by the United Nations call for the concerted participation of the organizations of the United Nations system. The ACC is involved in the preparation for and follow-up to these kinds of United Nations activities. In 1992 ACC will monitor developments with regard to a large number of such events, including the World Decade for Cultural Development, the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade, the International Literacy Year, the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, the Second Decade to Combat Racism and Racial Discrimination, the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (1991-2000), the International Year for the World's Indigenous People 1993, the International Year of the Family 1994, the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000, the Nairobi Forward-Looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, the International Conference on Nutrition, the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, the United Nations Decade Against Drug Abuse, the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the 1982 Plan of Action on Ageing and the 1982-1992 United Nations Decade for Disabled Persons.

43. Regarding some of these activities, ad hoc mechanisms for coordination of the activities of the organizations of the system may be established. In other cases the monitoring of relevant developments and the planning and coordination of inputs from the United Nations system will be carried out by the Organizational Committee or ACC itself. Depending upon the nature of the activity, the subsidiary machinery of ACC may also be involved.

10. Operational activities for development

44. ACC and its subsidiary body, the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) (CCSQ (OPS)) have addressed a number of substantive issues with system-wide implications to further enhance the coherence, cost-effectiveness and impact of the system's operational activities. Particular emphasis is given to country level coordination arrangements. CCSQ (OPS) has in particular endeavoured to focus on a few priority issues for in-depth consideration aimed at developing common positions. ACC will continue to consider issues related to operational activities for development at both of its regular sessions of 1992.

45. CCSQ (OPS) will hold its first regular session in Geneva from 16-19 March 1992, and its second session in New York in the autumn. The following issues will receive priority attention:

(a) Comprehensive policy review on operational activities for development

46. The overall content and thrust of this report has already been the subject of consultations between the United Nations and the Committee. The Committee will serve as an important mechanism for effective consultations. Issues include resources for operational activities, joint programming, the resident coordinator system, field representation, decentralization, national execution, training and the simplification and harmonization of rules and procedures. The main findings of the report are expected to receive priority attention by the Committee.

(b) Goals and strategies for the 1990s

47. The Committee will monitor the implementation of the Information and Initial Guidance Note on the operational implications of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade which it developed in 1991 and which the United Nations issued to the headquarters and field staff of the system. The note identifies specific measures that resident coordinators and their country-level partners could take in supporting the Governments' priorities in the areas covered by the Strategy. The Committee will monitor the implementation of the note and will elaborate further guidance on priority substantive themes, as required.

(c) Enhancing the role and effectiveness of the resident coordinator system

48. The Committee will monitor the overall implementation of the guidelines issued by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation in 1990 to resident coordinators in the context of the triennial comprehensive policy review in accordance with General Assembly resolution 46/219. The Committee will give further consideration to the question of strengthening the resident coordinator system as concerns agencies without independent field representation. It will also review questions related to promoting field collaboration, which have been identified at the workshops on the management of field coordination in Turin. Taking into account the experience acquired in these workshops, the Committee will cooperate with the United Nations in developing a comprehensive training strategy for international and national personnel involved in operational activities at the field level.

(d) Refugee aid and development

49. In view of the linkage between refugee assistance and development aid, the Committee will consider draft guidelines for collaboration, and formulate new approaches and policies, taking into account recent discussions by the General Assembly on this subject. The guidelines will, in particular, be addressed to country teams.

(e) Strengthening national capacities: programme approaches and national execution

50. The Committee will monitor the relevance and feasibility of draft guidelines issued by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation on behalf of the system, and finalize them, taking into account the results of current assessments at the field level. It will be involved in ongoing efforts to clarify concepts and give practical effect to the programme approach in accordance with paragraph 17 of General Assembly resolution 44/211. The Committee will, furthermore, be involved in elaborating the concept, principles and guidelines for the promotion of the national execution modality.

(f) Support costs

51. The Committee will continue to keep under review the implementation of successor arrangements for support costs.

(g) Operational implications of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries

52. The Committee will consider the subject with a view to elaborating guidelines for the headquarters and field staff of the system to give practical effect to this important Programme of Action.

11. Programme matters

53. The Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) (CCSQ (PROG)) will meet in Geneva from 9 to 11 March 1992 to consider the following issues. It will also hold a joint meeting with CCAQ (FB) on 11 March 1992. CCSQ (PROG) may in addition meet again later in the year.

(a) Preparation of the ACC report on programmes and resources of the organizations of the system

54. At the request of CPC at the first part of its thirtieth session, CCSQ (PROG) developed a prototype of a new ACC report on programmes and resources of organizations of the system, which was presented to the twenty-fifth series of Joint Meetings of CPC and ACC. The Joint Meetings concluded that the prototype constituted a good basis on which ACC could proceed to prepare the first report on programmes and resources which was issued as an addendum to the ACC annual overview report for 1991 (E/1991/42/Add.1). The next report on programmes and resources will be issued in 1993.

55. CCSQ (PROG) will oversee the preparation of the new report and review it in draft form prior to its submission in 1993 to CPC, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly.

(b) ACC programme classification

56. At its second regular session of 1991, ACC adopted a revised programme classification to take effect from 1 January 1992 (ACC decision 1991/22). CCSQ (PROG) will monitor reporting under the new classification and make adjustments as necessary.

(c) Possible development of a system-wide database on programmes and resources

57. CCSQ (PROG) has repeatedly recognized that a central database or a means of central access to the databases of the organizations of the system on resources and programmes would be an effective way of responding to the concerns of Member States concerning the availability of system-wide information.

58. In 1992 CCSQ (PROG) will continue to keep under review the implications of the possible establishment of such a database or central means of access. The Committee will further explore the potential advantages of such a database, taking into account the development of new management information systems in a number of organizations.

(d) System-wide reports

59. At its meetings in 1991, CCSQ (PROG) considered its role, on behalf of the United Nations system, in the preparation of thematic analyses and other system-wide reports. CCSQ (PROG) will review and make comments on the methodological aspects of these reports, as appropriate.

(e) Programming issues

60. In 1992, CCSQ (PROG) will address the matter of which programming issues of mutual interest should be taken up by the Committee.

12. Preparations for the high-level and coordination segments of the Economic and Social Council

61. In 1992, ACC will make arrangements for the preparation of appropriate documentation for the themes selected for the high-level and coordination segments of the Council session for 1992.

62. The Organizational Committee, at its meeting to be held in March of 1992, will also discuss the issue of the provision to the Council of executive summaries of the activities of the specialized agencies.

13. Preparations for the twenty-seventh series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination

63. The Economic and Social Council, by resolution 1988/64, decided that, in future, the Joint Meetings of CPC and ACC should be held in New York in conjunction with the autumn session of ACC, and that the duration of the meetings should be sufficient to allow for an adequate exchange of views among participants. The topics to be considered by the Joint Meetings in 1992 have yet to be decided by the two Committees. The Organizational Committee will consider appropriate topics at its meeting in March. To facilitate discussion at the Joint Meetings, ACC is expected to prepare background papers.

B. Administrative, personnel and financial questions

1. Questions related to personnel

64. In conformity with its decision 1987/4, ACC will continue to consider personnel questions at each of its sessions in 1992. A major input for these discussions will be the deliberations of CCAQ (PER) on the items described below.

65. CCAQ (PER) is planning to hold two sessions in 1992, both in conjunction with meetings of the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC). The seventy-sixth session of CCAQ (PER) will be held in New York from 2-6 March and its seventy-seventh session in London from 6 to 10 July with additional meetings held in conjunction with the respective sessions of ICSC (9-27 March and 13-31 July, as required).

(a) Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

66. To the extent that in 1992 it may be possible to pay less attention to margin management and the avoidance of a post adjustment freeze and more time on the development of proposals for a more flexible and responsive salary system and structure for the common system as a whole, the year is expected to be a challenging and constructive one.

(i) New approaches

67. CCAQ will actively respond to ACC's decision (1991/19) by which ACC instructed CCAQ to submit concrete proposals to ICSC on a number of new approaches to conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories. As requested, CCAQ will support - and coordinate - organizations' resources in developing concepts and in bringing forward new approaches.

68. A first step will be made in a detailed study of recent developments in the comparator civil service, including the comparator's use of:

(a) Pay based on the locality;

(b) Special pay systems;

(c) Increased flexibility in different United States federal pay systems.

69. The second step will be a study of the other pay systems such as those of the European Community and the coordinated organizations.

70. The third element will be the development of new approaches based, on the one hand, on the needs as expressed by organizations and, on the other, on the way in which the United States comparator civil service and other international employers such as the European Community have met those needs.

(ii) The structure of the scale

71. In 1992, the Committee will pursue further work on the possible restructuring of the salary scale. This is a complex task inasmuch as any major restructuring of the scale, such as the introduction of more grades, also implies a full-scale reclassification exercise.

(iii) Rental subsidy scheme

72. As it was not possible for ICSC to complete its review of the rental subsidy scheme in 1991, this remains an issue for consideration in 1992. CCAQ will assist in presenting proposals for further refinements to the scheme.

(b) Conditions of service of staff in the General Service and related categories

73. During 1992, salary surveys will be conducted by ICSC in one headquarters duty station (Montreal) and by the designated and responsible agencies concerned in non-headquarters locations.

74. Major attention will be focused, however, on the methodology for the conduct of General Service salary surveys initially at headquarters location. CCAQ will participate in a working group which will begin looking into this matter in January 1992 to prepare the ground for ICSC's spring session in March. A tripartite group, including members of ICSC will meet later in the year to prepare a full report for ICSC's summer session (July 1992).

(c) Allowances

(i) Mobility and hardship allowance

75. CCAQ will be heavily involved in the preparation of a study on the operation of the mobility and hardship allowance and the assignment grant which will be presented to the forty-seventh (1992) session of the General

Assembly. This study will analyse the cost-effectiveness of the new allowance as well as the results of its introduction from a personnel management standpoint, e.g. increased mobility.

76. The base/floor salary scale is directly linked to the mobility and hardship allowance and, in their consideration of increases to the base/floor scale. Some delegations in the Fifth Committee questioned the appropriateness of this link and made repeated reference to the importance of the 1992 study as a basis for their further consideration of this matter.

(ii) Education grant

77. CCSQ will issue a software package for the presentation of statistics on education grant claims. This programme will enable CCAQ to make improved analyses and presentations for reviewing the grant on a biennial basis.

(d) Security and independence of the International Civil Service

78. CCAQ will continue to report to ACC, as appropriate, on issues concerning the security and independence of the International Civil Service. CCAQ will continue to follow up on the inter-agency scheme for insurance for staff working in danger zones or areas of conflict.

(e) Patterns of employment

79. As a result of two meetings of its task force on contractual arrangements for non-career staff, CCAQ will present a report on the development of a more up-to-date strategy for temporary employment through the provision of a framework for a new contractual arrangement for non-core staff working on specific tasks over a clearly defined period of time in any location.

80. The report will provide a framework for further action by organizations wishing to introduce new arrangements. ICSC will be invited to review CCAQ's report in 1992 though it is not intended that identical provisions should be forced on organizations. Rather, action in 1992 will be limited to those organizations that are eager to experiment with the new approach in a bid to help find a response to their own operational problems.

(f) Review of pensionable remuneration and other pension-related matters

81. CCAQ will be closely involved in the completion of ICSC's review of pensionable remuneration and pensions of staff in the General Service and related categories to be presented to the General Assembly at its forth-seventh session in 1992. CCAQ will pay particular attention in the review to the greater use of local tax rates in the determination of appropriate pensionable remuneration levels; in one form or another, it has for many years been advocating an approach that took greater account of local tax rates.

2. Financial and budgetary questions

82. CCAQ (FB) plans to hold two regular sessions in 1992, of which the first will be in Geneva from 9 to 13 March and the second will probably take place in New York in the week preceding the opening of the General Assembly. A joint meeting is foreseen with CCSQ (PROG) during the March session for the further development of the ACC report on programmes and resources of organizations of the United Nations system. CCAQ (FB) is also likely to convene working parties in the framework of the major effort foreseen for 1992 on the development of system-wide accounting standards (para. 85 below).

(a) Programme and budget

83. CCAQ (FB) has agreed to pursue a new round of work on budgeting methods, and in this context will now consider definitions and means of measuring budgetary/cash surpluses and deficits under regular budgets, together with the question of special arrangements developed for financing cash deficits.

84. The Committee will revert to the subject of jointly-financed budgets to consider revised 1992-1993 proposals concerning the income and expenditure of the ACC Subcommittee on Nutrition as well as a suitable cost-sharing formula. Budgetary matters relating to other jointly-financed activities will also be dealt with as necessary.

(b) Accounting and financial reporting

85. Taking account of relevant action by the General Assembly at its forty-sixth session, CCAQ (FB) will make a substantial effort during 1992 to respond to the recommendations of the Panel of External Auditors on the need to develop accounting standards for the United Nations system. In March 1992 it will review the report of the Working Party on Accounting Standards which undertook substantive consideration of this subject in December 1991. The Working Party recommended among other things that further meetings of a working group should be held in the late spring of 1992, and possibly again in the autumn of the year, following the Committee's September session. The aim will be to produce evidence of significant and substantial progress in the development of system-wide accounting standards by the time of the General Assembly's forty-seventh session. The work will not, however, be completed before the end of 1993 at the earliest.

86. The Committee will collaborate with CCSQ (PROG) on the further development of the new ACC report on programmes and resources of organizations of the United Nations system, notably in order to improve financial reporting in the framework of the new ACC programme classification and to develop means of presenting the financial data reported in such a way as to give appropriate recognition to amounts made available through funding bodies of the system. In addition, the Committee will review the first of a new series of reports prepared on behalf of ACC to take the place of the statistical data previously contained in reports of ACABQ on administrative and budgetary coordination of the United Nations with the specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

(c) Payment of salaries and allowances

87. No specific new subjects are currently foreseen under this heading. CCAQ (FB) will, however, continue to review country-wide exceptions proposed by the United Nations and UNDP to the standard formula for the currency distribution of payments of salaries and allowances to internationally-recruited staff. As required, attention will also be given to questions relating to the reimbursement of income taxes and related charges.

(d) Cash management, including the monitoring of the current financial situation of organizations of the United Nations system

88. Exchanges of information and views on the organizations' current financial situation and prospects will continue to occupy a substantial part of the time available for the sessions of CCAQ (FB). These discussions will be supported by statistical data collected on behalf of the Committee. The attention of ACC will be invited to significant developments.

89. As in past years, CCAQ (FB) will hold closed discussions on deposit and investment arrangements, aimed at safeguarding the organizations' cash assets.

(e) General financial systems

90. Under this heading, the following main subjects are expected to receive attention in CCAQ (FB) in 1992:

(i) Productivity improvement. CCAQ (FB) will continue to promote measures designed to increase efficiency and reduce costs in administrative operations. The development of coordinated procurement arrangements is likely to be a main focus of interest in this area;

(ii) Extrabudgetary activities. The Committee is anxious to arrive at satisfactory standard arrangements with the European Community for trust-fund activities financed by it;

(iii) Support costs. Certain financial aspects of the new support-cost arrangements adopted by UNDP will call for further collective discussion, in particular the question of protection of support-cost earnings against adverse currency fluctuations and a new system of ex post facto reporting on support expenditures. In addition, the question of the future level of support-cost charges for trust-fund activities may well call for attention in cooperation with other competent bodies;

(iv) Health insurance schemes. The Committee is scheduled to return at its autumn 1992 session to the question of the cost of health insurance schemes, in connection with which it will be able to consider updated statistical information aimed at identifying the evolution of the cost burden falling on the organizations;

(v) Internal controls. The Committee will pursue its closed exchanges of information on this subject, giving particular attention to the prevention and detection of fraud.

(f) Other financial and budgetary questions

91. In addition to providing for certain items of continuing interest, such as amendments to financial regulations and the underlying developments in financial policy, the agendas of CCAQ (FB) will remain open for the addition of subjects of current concern to member organizations.

C. Other questions

1. Review of the role and functioning of the ACC

92. In 1990 ACC initiated a review of its role and functioning, including the functioning of its subsidiary machinery. A number of steps were identified to lead to the improved functioning of the subsidiary machinery. Discussion of the functioning of the subsidiary machinery of ACC will continue in 1992.

2. Joint Inspection Unit

93. In the past several years ACC has devoted considerable attention to increased collaboration with the JIU.

94. In February 1992, the Organizational Committee will review the work programme of JIU for 1992.

95. It will also be necessary in 1992 to prepare joint comments on reports and studies prepared by the Unit; at present, the following reports issued by JIU in 1991 would appear to require such comments:

"Assessment of the environmental focus of projects financed by UNDP and other United Nations agencies" (JIU/REP/91/2)

"Grade overlap" (JIU/REP/91/5)

"Advantages and disadvantages of the post classification system" (JIU/REP/91/7)

"United Nations system cooperation with multilateral financial institutions; part I: Performance and innovation challenges; part II: Examples of fresh approaches" (JIU/REP/92/1, Parts I and II)

D. Organizational matters

1. Annual overview reports of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1991 and 1992

96. General Assembly resolutions 44/194 and 45/254 requested the Secretary-General to present the annual overview report of the ACC to the Committee for Programme and Coordination and to the Economic and Social Council and subsequently to make it available to the General Assembly together with the relevant conclusions and recommendations of those bodies on the report in accordance with existing practice. The report of ACC for 1991 will be approved by the Organizational Committee, on behalf of ACC, at its meeting in February 1992. At its meeting prior to the second regular session of ACC in 1992, the Organizational Committee will review the outline and proposed format of the annual report of ACC for 1992.

2. Appointments to posts in the subsidiary machinery of the Administrative Committee on Coordination

97. ACC, at its first regular session of 1992, will make appointments to posts in its machinery. The chairmen of the following bodies will be appointed or confirmed: Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions); Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions); Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Information Systems; Task Force on Rural Development; Intersecretariat Group for Water Resources; Intersecretariat Group on New and Renewable Sources of Energy; Subcommittee on Nutrition and Task Force on Science and Technology for Development. In addition the Coordinator of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) will be appointed.

3. Meetings of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its subsidiary machinery

98. The Organizational Committee, on behalf of ACC, will consider proposals for the convening of meetings under the auspices of ACC during 1992 and 1993.

II. MEETINGS IN 1992 OF THE SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION AND AD HOC INTER-AGENCY MEETINGS CONVENED UNDER ITS AUSPICES

99. The subsidiary machinery of ACC, including ad hoc meetings convened under its auspices, will in 1992 continue coordination efforts in various fields of activity. The meetings of the ACC machinery, and in some cases, other planned activities, are indicated below.

1. Nutrition

100. The nineteenth session of the Subcommittee on Nutrition of the Administrative Committee on Coordination will be held in Rome (headquarters of the World Food Programme (WFP)) from 24 to 28 February 1992. The provisional agenda is contained in document ACC/1991/PG/4. Current priorities and a number of standing items will be discussed.

2. Rural development

101. The twentieth session of the Task Force on Rural Development will be held in New York (UNDP headquarters) from 22 to 24 April 1992. The programme of work and time-frame of the Task Force on Rural Development for 1991/1992 is found in document ACC/1991/PG/1.

3. New and renewable sources of energy

102. The eleventh session of the Inter-Agency Group on New and Renewable Sources of Energy will meet in New York from 3 to 4 February 1992. Among the issues to be considered are coordination of activities; follow-up of the Castel Gandolfo Colloquium; contribution of new and renewable sources of energy to integrated rural development; direct solar-to-electrical energy conversion; and utilization of agricultural residues and urban wastes for energy production.

4. Science and technology for development

103. The thirteenth session of the Task Force on Science and Technology for Development will be held in New York from 27 to 29 April 1992. The provisional agenda can be found in document ACC/1991/PG/2. Among the issues to be considered are the substantive theme of the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth session; progress on endogenous capacity-building projects and inter-agency missions; and new and emerging areas of science and technology: contribution of biotechnology to sustainable development.

5. Statistical activities

104. The Subcommittee on Statistical Activities will hold its twenty-sixth session from 6 to 10 April 1992 at Geneva. The provisional agenda for the session is contained in document ACC/1991/PG/10. The provisional agenda contains a number of substantive items, including the statistical implications of developments in transition countries; publication and dissemination policy, including coordination of statistical databases; processing and dissemination of trade statistics; revision of the System of National Accounts (SNA); statistical implications of the single market of the European Community;

coordination of technical cooperation in statistics; monitoring achievement of social goals in the 1990s; household surveys; coordination of ongoing statistical programmes and the evolving role of the statistical service in international organizations.

6. Youth

105. The Inter-Agency Working Group at the Technical Level on Youth will meet in 1992 (date and venue to be determined). The meeting will consider, inter alia, preparations for a review and appraisal of the progress made and obstacles encountered in achieving the objectives of the International Youth Year; preparation of a calendar to mark the tenth anniversary of the International Youth Year; and preparation of a draft world youth programme of action towards the year 2000 and beyond.

7. Disabled persons

106. The ninth inter-agency meeting on the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons was held from 2 to 5 December 1991. The tenth meeting has not yet been scheduled. Many of the activities to be carried out in 1992 relate to the design of the second round of monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, to take place in 1992.

8. Water resources

107. The Intersecretariat Group for Water Resources will hold its thirteenth session from 7 to 9 October 1992 in New York immediately after the meeting of the Steering Committee for Water Supply and Sanitation. The provisional agenda for the session is found in document ACC/1991/PG/13. Items on the agenda include matters arising from the International Conference on Water and the Environment and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, and coordination and cooperation in the implementation of programmes and activities.

9. Outer space activities

108. The Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities will meet in Paris (at the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)) on 5-7 October 1992. The major items to be found on the provisional agenda are contained in document ACC/1990/PG/9. To be discussed are the implementation of the recommendations of the Second United Nations Conference on Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space; coordination of plans and programmes and exchange of views on current activities; in-depth review of the cooperation of organizations of the United Nations system in remote-sensing activities; and review and coordination of follow-up activities of the organizations of the United Nations system on International Space Year 1992.

10. Information systems

109. The Advisory Committee for the Coordination of Information Systems will not meet until 1993. It will continue in 1992 to be engaged in a number of standing activities, including the preparation of various publications such as the Registry of Development Activities.

11. Drug abuse control

110. The Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Coordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control will meet on 16 April 1992 in Vienna immediately following the thirty-fifth session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. Among the items to be discussed are the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Drug Abuse Control; the United Nations Decade against Drug Abuse; and an International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. In addition, a three-day meeting will be convened in September at a venue to be decided. That meeting will consider, inter alia, inter-agency collaboration on demand reduction programmes.

12. Information

111. The Joint United Nations Information Committee will hold its eighteenth session in Rome, on 7-9 July 1992. The provisional agenda includes items on special events; the United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service; the future of Development Forum; participation in international exhibits; inter-agency cooperation in audio-visual production; use of computer technology; and "United Nations system identity package".

13. Women

112. The sixteenth session of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Women will be held in Vienna on 9-10 March 1992 prior to the thirty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, which will be held from 11 to 20 March 1992. The provisional agenda is contained in document ACC/1991/PG/5. Among the items to be discussed are preparations for the World Conference on Women; operational activities and preparation of reports on priority themes for the thirty-seventh session of the Commission on the Status of Women; and the 1992 report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women.

14. Family

113. The second meeting of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on the International Year of the Family, 1994, will be held in Vienna on 5 and 6 March 1992, immediately preceding the inter-agency meeting on women. Items to be discussed include progress made in the preparation for the International

Year of the Family, including resource allocation; inter-agency cooperation and collaboration, with particular emphasis on joint projects; and the participation of non-governmental organizations in activities of the United Nations system planned for the International Year of the Family.

15. Least developed countries

114. The Inter-Agency Consultation on the Follow-up to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s will meet in June 1992 to review inter-agency collaboration for the implementation of the Programme of Action.

16. Population

115. At its meeting held from 7 to 9 October 1991, the Organizational Committee of ACC decided to create an ad hoc task force to ensure inter-agency participation by United Nations bodies in the preparations for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994. It was decided that the task force would meet annually for three to four days during the period 1992-1994.

116. An informal meeting of the ad hoc task force was convened by Dr. Nafis Sadik, Secretary-General of the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, on 27 January 1992. The purpose of the informal meeting was to encourage an exchange of information and views on the preparatory activities leading to the 1994 Conference and to report on the status of those preparatory activities. The Secretary-General of the Conference summarized the major events that had taken place since the first meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Conference (February-March 1991), and underlined the importance of ensuring full participation of all units of the United Nations system. She presented the plans of the Conference secretariat in relation to the six expert group meetings (the first of which was held from 20-24 January 1992 in New York, and which addressed the topic of "Population, environment and development"), regional population conferences, and the participation of intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in the Conference's preparatory process.

117. The first formal meeting of the ACC Ad Hoc Task Force for the International Conference on Population and Development, 1994, will be held in July 1992, around the time of the substantive session of the Economic and Social Council (29 June-31 July 1992). The Conference secretariat will prepare a detailed annotated agenda for that meeting that will include ideas and proposals on how best to enlist the participation and support of the various United Nations organizations and units in the Conference's important preparatory process.

17. Demographic estimates

118. The Ad Hoc Working Group on Demographic Estimates and Projections will hold its nineteenth session in Rome (FAO) from 23 to 25 June 1992.

III. ALLOCATION OF ITEMS

119. Provided below is the provisional list of items to be considered in 1992 by the Administrative Committee on Coordination, its Organizational Committee and consultative committees.

A. Administrative Committee on Coordination

1. First regular session of 1992

1. Dialogue between the Secretary-General and the executive heads on the role of the United Nations system in the 1990s and the contributions to be made by the organizations, individually and collectively

2. Topics for policy discussion

   A. Implications for the United Nations system of the transition process in Eastern and Central Europe and in the States of the Commonwealth of Independent States

   B. Poverty, disease and underdevelopment: breaking the vicious circle

3. Topics for exchange of information

   A. United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

   B. Uruguay Round

   C. UNCTAD VIII

4. Operational and administrative issues

   A. Operational activities for development

   B. Questions related to personnel

   C. Financial and budgetary questions

5. Other matters, including decisions adopted on behalf of ACC by its Organizational Committee

2. Second regular session of 1992

1. Topics for policy discussion

   A. Humanitarian and emergency assistance, including early warning

   B. Financing of growth and development

   C. Environment and development

      1. Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

      2. Annual report of ACC to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

2. Topics for exchange of information

   A. Economic and Social Council: Follow-up to discussion at the coordination segment on AIDS and poverty

   B. Interim and Development Committees

3. Operational and administrative issues

   A. Operational activities for development

   B. Questions related to personnel

   C. Financial and budgetary questions

4. Other matters, including decisions adopted on behalf of ACC by its Organizational Committee

B. Organizational Committee

1. First regular session of 1992

1. Preparations for the consideration by ACC of the items listed in section A.1 above

2. New Agenda for Africa/System-wide Action Plan on African Economic Recovery and Development

3. Preparations for high-level and coordination segments of the Economic and Social Council

4. Preparations for the twenty-seventh series of Joint Meetings of CPC and ACC and the question of executive summaries of the activities of the agencies

5. Review of the role and functioning of the ACC and its subsidiary machinery

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

7. Progress reports:

   (a) South Africa

   (b) Industrial development

   (c) Climate change

8. Matters arising from the reports of subsidiary bodies of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and from ad hoc inter-agency meetings convened under its auspices

   (a) Inter-Agency Group on New and Renewable Sources of Energy (3-4 February)

   (b) Subcommittee on Nutrition (24-28 February)

   (c) Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions) (CCAQ (PER)) (2-6 March)

   (d) Task Force on Long-term Development Objectives (3-6 March)

   (e) Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on the International Year of the Family, 1994 (5-6 March)

   (f) Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Women (9-10 March)

   (g) Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) (CCSQ (PROG)) (9-11 March)

   (h) Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Matters) (CCAQ (FB)) (9-13 March)

   (i) Informal Joint Working Group of the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) (CCSQ (PROG)) and the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Matters) (CCAQ (FB)) (11 March)

   (j) Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) (16-19 March)

9. Organizational matters:

   (a) Appointments to posts in subsidiary machinery of ACC

   (b) Meetings of ACC and its subsidiary machinery

2. Second regular session of 1992

1. Preparations for the consideration by ACC of the items listed in section A.2 above

2. Developing human resources for development

3. Report on the world social situation

4. Preparations for the twenty-seventh series of Joint Meetings of CPC and ACC

5. Progress reports:

   (a) International Conference on Nutrition

   (b) International drug abuse control

   (c) International cooperation to address and mitigate the consequences of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant

   (d) Assistance to Namibia

   (e) Economic and other consequences of the conflict in the Gulf

6. Matters arising from the reports of subsidiary bodies of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and from ad hoc inter-agency meetings convened under its auspices:

   (a) Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Coordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control (16 April)

   (b) Task Force on Rural Development (22-24 April)

   (c) Task Force on Science and Technology (25-27 April)

   (d) Informal Inter-Agency Working Group at the Technical Level on Youth (to be decided)

   (e) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities (8-12 June)

   (f) Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions) (CCAQ (PER)) (6-10 July)

   (g) Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Matters) (CCAQ (FB)) (September)

   (h) Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) (Second regular session) (dates to be determined)

   (i) Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters) (dates to be determined)

   (j) Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Coordination in Matters of International Drug Abuse Control (September)

   (k) Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (5-7 October)

   (l) Intersecretariat Group for Water Resources (7-9 October)

7. Organizational matters:

(a) Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1992

(b) Meetings of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and its subsidiary machinery

C. Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Programme Matters)

(a) Preparation of the ACC report on programmes and resources of the organizations of the system

(b) ACC programme classification

(c) Development of system-wide database on programmes and resources

(d) System-wide reports

(e) Programming issues

D. Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities)

(a) Comprehensive policy review on operational activities for development

(b) Elaboration at the Headquarters level of broad common operational strategies around substantive themes

(c) Refugee aid and development

(d) Strengthening national capacities: programme approaches and national execution

(e) Support costs

(f) Operational implications of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries

E. Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Personnel and General Administrative Questions)

(a) Conditions of service of staff in the Professional and higher categories

(b) Conditions of service of staff in the General Service and related categories

(c) Allowances

(d) Security and independence of the international civil service

(e) Patterns of employment

(f) Review of pensionable remuneration and other pension related matters

F. Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions)

(a) Programme and budget

(b) Accounting and financial reporting

(c) Payment of salaries and allowances

(d) Cash management, including the monitoring of current financial situation of organizations of the United Nations system

(e) General financial systems

(f) Other financial and budgetary questions

UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM

ACC

ACC/1992/2
15 April 1992

Administrative Committee
on Coordination

ENGLISH ONLY

ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE
New York, 10-13 February 1992

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

INTRODUCTION

1. The Organizational Committee met at United Nations Headquarters, from 10 to 13 February 1992. The Committee reviewed and approved the programme of work of the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) for 1992, prepared the annual overview report of ACC for 1991 and considered a number of other matters. The list of participants is contained in annex I to the present document.

I. PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

2. The Organizational Committee, on behalf of ACC, approved the programme of work of ACC for 1992 (ACC/1992/1). The Committee had an extensive discussion of how ACC might adapt and respond to rapidly changing conditions. New approaches and methods of work were considered. The Committee reiterated that the agendas for ACC meetings should be selective and limited to a relatively few items. As a general principle it was suggested and generally accepted that ACC sessions should have a policy discussion on one or two topics of particular relevance upon which there was a need for cooperation and coordination. Consideration would also be given to a variety of matters related to current intergovernmental deliberations with direct implications for the work of the organizations of the system. ACC would, as required, deal at each session with a variety of administrative and operational issues, including those arising from the reports of its main consultative committees. ACC would in addition, as appropriate, receive written progress reports on various ongoing issues. Matters requiring action by ACC would normally be dealt with in the first instance by the Organizational Committee, which would propose, as appropriate, draft decisions, conclusions or recommendations to ACC.

3. Taking those considerations into account, the Committee established a provisional list of items to be placed on the agenda of ACC at its first and second regular sessions of 1992. The list of items is indicative, since the Organizational Committee would make final proposals regarding the agendas at its meetings held prior to the first and second regular sessions of ACC.

A. Provisional list of items for consideration by the Administrative Committee on Coordination in 1992

1. First regular session of 1992

1. Dialogue between the Secretary-General and the executive heads on the role of the United Nations system in the 1990s and the contributions to be made by the organizations, individually and collectively

2. Topics for policy discussion

   A. Implications for the United Nations system of the economic transition process in Eastern and Central Europe and in the Commonwealth of Independent States

   B. Poverty, disease and underdevelopment: breaking the vicious circle

3. Topics for exhange of information

   A. United Nations Conference on Environment amd Development

   B. Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations

   C. UNCTAD VIII

4. Operational and administrative issues

   A. Operational activities for development

   B. Questions related to personnel

   C. Financial and budgetary questions

5. Other matters, including decisions adopted on behalf of ACC by its Organizational Committee

2. Second regular session of 1992

1. Topics for policy discussion

   A. Humanitarian and emergency assistance, including early warning

   B. Financing of growth and development

   C. Environment and development

      1. Follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development

2. Annual report of ACC to the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

2. Topics for exchange of information

A. Economic and Social Council: Follow-up to discussion at the coordination segment on acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) and poverty

B. Interim and Development Committees

3. Operational and administrative issues

A. Operational activities for development

B. Questions related to personnel

C. Financial and budgetary questions

4. Other matters, including decisions adopted on behalf of ACC by its Organizational Committee

4. The Committee noted that the assumption of office of a new Secretary-General of the United Nations, who was also Chairman of ACC, presented another opportunity for a reassessment. In that connection, the Committee proposed that at its first regular session of 1992, ACC have on its agenda an item under which the Secretary-General and the executive heads would have an exchange of views on the role of the the United Nations system in the 1990s. Such an exhange would be a continuation of the discussion initiated by ACC at its first regular session of 1991 in Paris.

5. With regard to the two topics for policy discussion at the first regular session of ACC, it was agreed that the World Health Organization (WHO), after consultation with the relevant organizations of the system, would prepare a background paper on the topic of poverty, disease and underdevelopment: breaking the vicious circle. The United Nations would in a similar fashion prepare a background paper on the implications for the work of the United Nations system of the economic transition in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS). Descriptions of the specific issues to be addressed and of the focuses to be given to the discussion at ACC on those topics are found in the annotations to the ACC programme of work for 1992 (ACC/1992/1).

6. The Committee discussed the difficulties facing many organizations in connection with the payment of assessed contributions from States in Central and Eastern Europe and of the Commonwealth of Independent States of the former Soviet Union. It was agreed that the question should be referred to the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Financial and Budgetary Questions) (CCAQ) (FB)), which would be asked, at its forthcoming session, to collect and analyse in a preliminary manner the relevant data from all of the organizations concerned. The issue could then be discussed by ACC at its first regular session.

7. The Committee reviewed the decisions of the Economic and Social Council, taken at its organizational session for 1992, on the themes for the high-level and coordination segments of the Council in 1992. The difficulty of adequately preparing documentation in such a short period of time was pointed out by members of the Committee. The Secretary-General of the United Nations had the responsibility of providing appropriate documentation for the theme selected for the high-level segment, which was "Enhancing international cooperation for development: the role of the United Nations system". The organizations of the system would be consulted in the preparation of the documentation. As concerned the two topics chosen for the coordination segment, documentation was to be provided by the Secretary-General as Chairman of ACC. It was agreed that the background paper on assistance in the eradication of poverty and support to vulnerable groups, including those affected during the implementation of structural adjustment programmes, would be prepared by the United Nations. Information previously provided for the thematic analysis on the eradication of poverty would be fully utilized, but additional information would need to be collected and analysed in order to cover all of the dimensions of that coordination theme selected by the Council. WHO was given the responsibility of preparing the background documentation on prevention and control of HIV/AIDS and programmes addressed to the mitigation of its negative socio-economic consequences. The relevant organizations of the system would be consulted in the preparation of the paper. The Organizational Committee, at its meeting held in conjunction with the first regular session of ACC, would be apprised of the status of the preparation of those two background papers.

8. The Committee also considered issues related to the twenty-seventh series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) and ACC. It was noted that topics for the forthcoming Joint Meetings had not yet been selected. The Committee was also informed of discussions taking place concerning the possible change in the timing of the Joint Meetings. The Committee agreed to return to that issue at its meeting to be held in March of 1992. The United Nations would prepare a background note for that discussion.

B. Work programme of the Joint Inspection Unit

9. The Committee reviewed the work programme of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) for 1992. It was noted that the organizations to be the subject of JIU studies should be consulted by the Unit when its work programme was being formulated. Many members of the Committee expressed the view that the proposed study on the managerial capacity of the Secretary-General to enhance coordination was much too broad and general and should be revised.

C. Reports of the subsidiary bodies of the Administrative Committee on Coordination

10. The Committee, on behalf of ACC, took note of the report of the ACC Intersecretariat Group for Water Resources at its twelfth session (FAO Headquarters, Rome, 25-27 October 1991) (ACC/1991/PG/13).

11. The Committee decided to defer until its next meeting consideration of the report of the Ninth Inter-Agency Meeting on the United Nations Decade of Disabled Persons (Vienna, 3-6 December 1991), contained in ACC/1991/PG/14. Clarification would be sought as to the status of the draft statement contained in the annex to the report.

D. Appointments to posts in the subsidiary machinery of the Administrative Committee on Coordination

12. The Committee held a preliminary exchange of views regarding appointments to posts in the ACC machinery which would be considered by ACC at its first regular session of 1992 and agreed to continue consideration at its meeting in March. Regarding the post of Coordinator of CCSQ (OPS), it was agreed that the Consultative Committee on Administrative Questions (Operational Activities) (CCSQ (OPS)) should be requested to provide the Organizational Committee with a recommendation of a person to assume the post of Coordinator, and a date on which the new Coordinator would assume office.

E. Meetings in 1992

13. At its meeting in October 1991, the Organizational Committee approved the convening of a number of meetings under the auspices of ACC in the first half of 1992 (ACC/1991/2/Add.2, para. 27).

14. The Committee, on behalf of ACC, approved the convening of the following additional meetings in 1992:

(a) Subcommittee on Statistical Activities, Geneva, 6-10 April 1992;

(b) Task Force on Science and Technology for Development, New York, 27-29 April 1992;

(c) Joint United Nations Information Committee, Rome (FAO Headquarters), 7-9 July 1992;

(d) Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, Paris (UNESCO Headquarters), 5-7 October 1992;

(e) Intersecretariat Group for Water Resources, New York, 7-9 October 1992.

15. The Committee discussed the overall problem of the timing of the meetings of its subsidiary bodies, some of which do not meet sufficiently far in advance of the meetings of the Organizational Committee for their reports to be reviewed in an appropriate manner. It was agreed that the subsidiary bodies should be informed that the Organiational Committee would not be in a position to take action on reports of subsidiary bodies unless those reports were completed and transmitted to the organizations at least one week in

advance of the meeting of the Organizational Committee. For that purpose the dates of the Organizational Committee meetings would be communicated to the Chairmen of subsidiary bodies as soon as they had been determined.

F. Information on activities of organizations regarding (a) the economic transition in Central and Eastern Europe and in the Commonwealth of Independent States and its implications for the work of the United Nations system and (b) the economic and other consequences of the conflict in the Gulf

16. The Committee has previously agreed to compile and distribute information regarding the activities of the organizations in these two areas. It had before it two consolidated notes which contained the information provided by the organizations. Organizations which had not yet provided information regarding their activities in these two areas would be able to do so as long as their contributions were received by 20 February 1992.

G. Other matters

17. The Committee returned to the issue of the executive summaries of the activities of the specialized agencies, to be provided to the Economic and Social Council under the terms of Council resolution 1989/114. It was noted that the summaries might not have been utilized as intended and that the staff and other costs required to produce them constituted a considerable burden for which there was no commensurate benefit for the Council or the agencies.

18. The Committee agreed to request its Chairman to informally bring that problem to the attention of the Council secretariat and of member States. It would be desirable if the specialized agencies could provide the Council with an existing document. That would permit the relevant information to be made available to the Council in an efficient and cost-effective manner. The Committee would take up the issue again at its March 1992 meeting at which time it would have before it a note prepared by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The note would relate to the issue and to more general problems associated with reporting requirements.

19. The attention of the Committee was drawn to a draft ACC decision presented by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) which concerned the geographical and gender balance of resident coordinators. It had not been possible to take action on the draft decision at the previous meeting of the Committee following the second regular session of ACC in 1991. It was agreed that the draft decision should be referred to CCSQ (OPS) for its views, which would be conveyed to the Organizational Committee at its meeting to be held in March 1992.

II. ANNUAL OVERVIEW REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION

20. The Committee reviewed the text of the draft annual overview report of ACC for 1991. The report was in principle approved. A revised version would be prepared by the ACC Secretariat, taking into account suggestions made by members of the Organizational Committee. The revised report would be circulated, and organizations could submit additional comments before the end of February 1992. The final report would then be submitted to the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) at its thirty-second session (New York, 4-29 May 1992) and to the Economic and Social Council at its regular session of 1992 (New York, 29 June to 31 July 1992). Subsequently, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 44/194 and 45/254, the report would be made available to the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session together with the relevant conclusions and recommendations of CPC and the Economic and Social Council on the report, in accordance with existing practice.

Annex I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Chairman: E. ter Horst (United Nations)

Secretary: J. Renninger (United Nations)

United Nations entities and programmes

Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation	E. Tsui M. Ikegame
Department of International Economic and Social Affairs	S. Khan V. Kryzhanovsky
Department of Technical Cooperation for Development	T. Shrestha M. Marchal
Department of Administration and Management	C. Thornberry V. Guerassev
United Nations Office at Vienna/United Nations International Drug Control Programme	S. Bryant
United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	G. Rao A. Celik
Regional Commissions New York Office	B. Widyono
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	M. K. Khaw
United Nations Environment Programme	S. M. Osman
World Food Council	K. Starr Newell
United Nations Children's Fund	B. Ogun
United Nations Development Programme	J. Beagle E. Wilkens
United Nations Population Fund	S. Mousky J. Peterson M. C. Arismendy
Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	P. Kourula
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	W. Lee
World Food Programme	T. Tomlinson

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Specialized agencies, IAEA and GATT

International Labour Organisation	R. Harari
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations	K. Killingsworth J. Camara
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization	E. Armerding
International Civil Aviation Organization	E. W. Faller
World Health Organization	Y. Kawaguchi I. Brüggemann M. Bekele
World Bank	W. D. Haddad
International Monetary Fund	R. Bhatia H. Shugarman
World Meteorological Organization	J. B. L. Breslin
International Maritime Organization	F. Labastida
World Intellectual Property Organization	K. J. Suedi
International Fund for Agricultural Development	V. Gathright
United Nations Industrial Development Organization	H. S. Halloway

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International Atomic Energy Agency	B. Andemicael M. O'Dell
General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade	A. Frank